

Morgan State University



School of Graduate Studies Catalog 2014-2015

School and College Sections

School of Social Work

Provisions of this publication are not to be regarded as a contract between the student and Morgan State University.

Changes are effected from time to time in the general regulations and in the academic requirements. There are established procedures for making changes and procedures which protect the institution's integrity and welfare. A curriculum or graduation requirement, when altered, is not made retroactive unless the alteration can be accommodated within the span of years required for graduation. Additionally, because of space limitations in limited enrollment programs, Morgan State University may not be able to offer admission to all qualified students applying to these programs and/or class-sections.

School of Social Work

OFFICERS OF ADMINISTRATION

Anna R. McPhatter, PhD, LCSW

Dean, School of Social Work
Jenkins Behavioral Sciences Building, Room 343
Tel: (443) 885-4126; Fax (443) 885-8241
Email: Anna.McPhatter@morgan.edu

Halaevalu F. Ofahengaue Vakalahi, Ph.D., MSW, M.Ed.

Associate Dean & Associate Professor
Jenkins Behavioral Science Building, Rm. 343
Baltimore, MD 21251
Phone: 443-885-4602
Fax: 443-885-8241
Email: Halaevalu.Vakalahi@morgan.edu

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY—SOCIAL WORK (PhD)

Sandra S. Chipungu, PhD

Chair, PhD Program in Social Work
Jenkins Behavioral Sciences Building, Rm. 343
Tel: (443) 885-1964; Fax (443) 885-8241
E-mail: Sandra.Chipungu@morgan.edu

Program Goals

Social Work doctoral education is directed at the development and transmission of new knowledge for the profession and the rigorous practice and evaluation of existing clinical, management, and policy approaches in social work. Scholarship in social work pursues, primarily, knowledge for practical use. It is concerned with doing so by developing theoretical and empirical understanding utilizing the full range of research methodologies. It also is concerned with developing knowledge and skills for teaching on both the undergraduate and graduate levels.

Morgan State University's PhD program in social work is uniquely designed to prepare students for leadership roles in urban social work research, policy analysis, advocacy, education, and macro social work practice. The program's urban focus recognizes that many inner-city residents bear the brunt of the social, economic, political, and health-related problems of American society. The disproportionate occurrence of these problems in urban areas represents a crisis in American democracy. To address this crisis, the PhD program in social work prepares students to apply a social justice framework to analyze and solve the catastrophic problems of contemporary urban society. Specific emphasis is on the multi-faceted and sustained problems of urban minority populations. A special focus is given to the social problems that confront African American families, communities, and organizations. The program also seeks to produce persons interested in becoming professors in schools and departments of social work

so that they can influence future social workers and contribute to social work's knowledge base on urban minority populations.

Admission Requirements

- Official transcripts of all academic work completed at regionally accredited institutions of higher education
- GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale for the last two years of undergraduate work
- GPA of 3.5 or better on a 4.0 scale on all postgraduate study beyond the baccalaureate degree
- MSW Degree from Council on Social Work Education accredited program.
- Official results of the GRE (Graduate Record Examination)
- International students, whose native language is not English, must provide a TOEFL score of 550 or higher and demonstrate through the required written documentation and interview that they have requisite verbal and analytical skills needed to successfully complete the program.
- A 3 to 4 page, double-spaced written statement of the applicant's interest and career goals that must address five questions: 1) What career objectives do you envision with a PhD in social work? 2) What specific area of research do you plan to pursue if admitted into the PhD program? 3) How have your professional experiences influenced your interest in pursuing a PhD in social work? 4) What specifically attracts you to the social work doctoral program at Morgan State University? and 5) How prepared are you for the personal, emotional, and time demands of doctoral training?
- A current resume or curriculum vitae documenting professional experiences.
- Samples of professional writing, including publications and research proposal abstracts, if available.
- Data from personal interview.
- Three letters of recommendation: one (1) from a recent work experience, and two (2) academic references.

General Requirements

The PhD Program in Social Work consists of 42 credits in the core curriculum and a minimum of 6 credit hours of dissertation research for a minimum total of 48 credit hours to complete the program. The program is primarily for full-time students, but a part-time option is available for special or unusual circumstances. Full-time students are expected to complete the program within four years or sooner. There is a seven-year statute of limitation for completion of the PhD Degree in Social Work. Students must complete the 38 core credits with grades of B or above before applying to take the comprehensive examination. The comprehensive examination must be passed prior to movement into the dissertation phase of the program. Students may repeat the comprehensive examination only once. Students must

submit an approved dissertation in partial fulfillment of the PhD in Social Work. When the dissertation has been completed to the satisfaction of the dissertation chairperson and committee members, a dissertation defense will be scheduled at which time the student must orally defend the dissertation before the dissertation committee. Graduation from the program is dependent upon successful completion of a dissertation.

Program of Study

The following core curriculum, consisting of 42 credit hours, and a minimum of 6 credit hours of dissertation, are required of all doctoral students in social work. Elective courses are specified with “Elective” in parentheses, and students are required to take only two electives:

SOWK 701: History of Social Welfare Policy	3
SOWK 702: Social Work and Human Services Statistics I	3
SOWK 703: Knowledge and Theory Development for Urban Social Work	3
SOWK 704: Research Methods for Urban Social Institutions	3
SOWK 705: Contemporary Social Policy Analysis	3
SOWK 706: Social Work and Human Services Statistics II	3
SOWK 801: Administration, Management, and Organizational Policy (Elective)	3
SOWK 802: Qualitative Methods in Social Work	3
SOWK 803: Urban Family Theories	3
SOWK 804: Social Work with Urban Organizations and Communities	3
SOWK 805: Advanced Statistics for the Human Services	3
SOWK 806: Program Evaluation (Elective)	3
SOWK 807: Issues in Social Work Pedagogy and Education	3
SOWK 808: Teaching Practicum in Social Work Education	3
SOWK 809: Health Policy Issues and Practice (Elective)	3
SOWK 810: Scholarly Writing & Productivity (Elective)	3
SOWK 811: Independent Study (Elective)	3
SOWK 997: Dissertation Guidance	3
SOWK 998: Dissertation Seminar	6

Doctoral Dissertation

The doctoral dissertation provides students who have completed the core curriculum and passed the comprehensive examination with an opportunity to devise and conduct original research. Students must complete 15 credit hours of dissertation research. In the event the dissertation is not completed within the 15 credit hours, students must continue to register for Dissertation Guidance (SOWK 997) until the dissertation has been completed and approved.

Comprehensive Examination

The comprehensive examination is designed to evaluate the degree to which doctoral students have successfully mastered content presented in the core curriculum. This in-class examination is written and spans over a one and a half day period in which students respond to questions in each core curriculum area. The core areas are 1) theories and methods of urban social work, 2) social welfare history and policy analysis, and 3) research methods and statistics. Students must pass the comprehensive examination prior to moving to the dissertation phase of the program. Students are only eligible to re-take the comprehensive examination one time.

Transfer Credits

Students who have taken doctoral courses in social work and interested in transferring to the PhD Program at Morgan must submit course syllabi for evaluation by the Chair of the PhD Program. No more than twelve (12) semester credit hours can be transferred, and these transfer credits cannot be applied until the student has taken at least twelve (12) semester credit hours in the PhD program at Morgan.

Full-Time Course Sequence

FALL (1st Year)	Credit Hours
SOWK 701 History of Social Welfare Policy	3
SOWK 702 Social Work and Human Services Statistics	3
SOWK 704 Knowledge and Theory Development for Urban Social Work	3
SPRING (1st Year)	
SOWK 703 Research Methods for Urban Social Institutions	3
SOWK 705 Contemporary Social Policy Analysis	3
SOWK 706 Social Work and Human Services Statistics II	3
FALL (2nd Year)	
SOWK 802 Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research	3
SOWK 804 Social Work with Urban Organizations and Communities	3
SOWK 805 Advanced Statistical Applications in Social Work	3
SPRING (2nd Year)	
SOWK 803 Urban Family Theories	3
SOWK 807 Issues in Social Work Pedagogy and Education	3
SOWK 899 Guided Research	3
TOTAL MINIMUM HOURS REQUIRED TO SIT FOR COMPREHENSIVE EXAMS	36
FALL (3rd Year)	
SOWK 998 Dissertation Seminar	6
SOWK 808 Teaching or Research Practicum in Social Work	3
SPRING (3rd Year)	
SOWK 997 Dissertation Guidance	3
SOWK 811 Elective	3
FALL (4th Year) Dissertation Guidance	3
SPRING (4th Year) Dissertation Guidance	3
TOTAL HOURS INCLUDING TWO YEARS OF DISSERTATION RESEARCH	57

MASTERS OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)

Melissa Littlefield, PhD, MSW

Chair, MSW Department

Jenkins Behavioral Sciences Building, Room 346

Tel: (443) 885-4608; Fax (443) 885-8241

E-mail: melissa.littlefield@morgan.edu

Program Mission and Goals

The Mission of the MSW Program is to prepare autonomous social work professionals who will serve as leaders in urban communities. Through multi-level and specialized fields of practice that utilize evidence-based practice methodologies, the program's emphasis on alleviating human suffering, ensuring social justice, and improving the quality of life and wellbeing for diverse urban populations reflects the hallmarks of the social work profession. The Program's dedication to producing social work professionals capable and willing to lead in the fight against poverty, oppression and injustice, particularly for residents of urban communities, is grounded in the profession's purpose and values. Because African Americans make up a substantial percentage of the urban population, and are also overrepresented among urban residents facing unrelenting social and economic problems, the program has a major focus on preparing its graduates to address, systematically and strategically through evidence-based practices, issues of poverty and socioeconomic disadvantage, interpersonal and community violence, substance abuse and mental health, and social injustice and discrimination, which have historically and currently disadvantaged this population. Essentially, the program educates students to become competent, effective, and autonomous social work professionals who will be at the forefront of developing social work knowledge and providing leadership in the development of quality service delivery systems for diverse urban populations.

The MSW Program goals are clearly derived from the MSW Program mission:

- To prepare autonomous practitioners committed to working competently and effectively with urban individuals, families, groups, organizations and communities;
- To socialize students to the values and ethics of the profession of social work;
- To address challenges, issues and problems of the urban environment toward the alleviation of human suffering and enhancing the quality of life of oppressed and vulnerable populations;
- To develop in students an appreciation for the historical and contemporary contributions of African Americans to the field of social welfare as the context for urban social work practice;
- To prepare students with the knowledge, skills, and commitment to address oppression and social injustice in all forms; and
- To promote the fullest understanding of the realities and complexities of human diversity, using a strengths- oriented perspective as a basis for culturally competent social work practice.

Core Competencies

Upon graduation from Morgan State University MSW students will have achieved at an advanced level, the following core competencies per the Council on Social Work Education 2008 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards and the mission and goals of the Program:

Educational Policy 2.1.1	Identify as a professional social worker and conduct oneself accordingly
Educational Policy 2.1.2	Apply social work ethical principles to guide professional practice
Educational Policy 2.1.3	Apply critical thinking to inform and communicate professional judgments
Educational Policy 2.1.4	Engage diversity and difference in practice
Educational Policy 2.1.5	Advance human rights and social and economic justice
Educational Policy 2.1.6	Engage in research-informed practice and practice informed research
Educational Policy 2.1.7	Apply knowledge of human behavior and the social environment
Educational Policy 2.1.8	Engage in policy practice to advance social and economic well-being and deliver effective social work services
Educational Policy 2.1.9	Respond to contexts that shape practice
Educational Policy 2.1.10	Engage [2.1.10(a)], assess [2.1.10 (b)], intervene with [2.1.10 (c) and evaluate [2.1.10 (d)] individuals, families, groups, organizations, and communities
Educational Policy 2.1.11	Apply knowledge of African-Americans in social welfare as context for urban social work practice
Educational Policy 2.1.12	Apply knowledge of the dynamics and complexities of urban communities as the basis for urban social work practice

MSW Program Admissions

MSW Program admission is granted for the fall semester only. Please visit www.morgan.edu/SSW for MSW Program application deadlines and guidelines. Students must meet admission requirements set by both the MSU School of Graduate Studies and the MSU School of Social Work MSW Program. Please visit www.morgan.edu/Graduate for more information regarding admission requirements for the Graduate School.

The posted deadline for applications applies to all supporting documents. The MSW Program does not receive applications for review from the School of Graduate Studies until they are complete including resume, background statements, 3 recommendations, and official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended.

The following items are required for consideration for admission to the MSW Program:

- **Official transcripts from all colleges and/or universities attended.** Transcripts must be sent from the college directly to the MSU School of Graduate Studies in order to be considered official.
 - A 3.0 cumulative grade point average is required for regular admission.
 - Students with a 2.5 – 2.9 GPA may be admitted conditionally.

- **Three letters of recommendation.** Recommendations are to be from employers, professors or volunteer/internship supervisors, rather than colleague or personal references. Electronic reference forms are provided, and recommendation letters may also be uploaded.
- **Personal Background Statement.** This statement is to include professional and personal goals, career objectives, and discussion of a social issue of importance to the applicant. An outline of the contents of the Personal Statement may be found on the Admissions page of the School of Social Work website: www.morgan.edu/SSW.
- **Resume.** Include education, professional and volunteer experience, academic achievements and professional accomplishments, particularly those that are relevant to social work.
- **A personal interview may be requested** by the MSW Admissions Committee.

Requirements for Fulfillment of the MSW Degree

Students must complete 48 credits of course work and 12 credits of supervised field practicum, for a total of 60 credit hours to earn the MSW degree. There is a five year statute of limitations on completion of the program requirements. Students are not given credit for life experience and cannot receive credit for course work completed in a non-accredited social work program. The MSW degree requires students to complete a foundation and advanced field practicum, each of which entails working in a social work or related agency for a set number of hours each week for two consecutive semesters. Persons who are not seeking an MSW degree may be permitted to take a limited number of courses as a non-degree seeking student. Non-degree seeking students must be pre-approved by the MSW Department Chair, and are responsible for knowing and following the School of Graduate Studies' policies and guidelines associated with the non-degree student status.

Full Time Program Schedule. The MSW graduation requirements may be completed in two years of full-time course work including four consecutive semesters of field practicum. The foundation practicum is 16 hours over two days per week in year one and the advanced practicum is 24 hours over three days per week in year two.

Part Time Program Schedule. A three year part time schedule is offered in which students complete 12 credits of course work in the first year, followed by 12 credits of course work and 6 credits of field practicum in year two, and 24 credits of course work and 6 credits of field practicum in year 3. The foundation practicum is 16 hours over two days per week and takes place for two consecutive semesters starting in the fall of year two. The advanced practicum is 24 hours over three days per week and takes place for two consecutive semesters starting in the fall of year three.

Advanced Standing. Applicants who have earned a Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) degree from a social work program accredited by the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) within the previous five (5) years may apply for Advanced Standing in the MSW Program. Students applying for Advanced Standing must have their undergraduate social work courses evaluated for acceptance toward the MSW degree requirements. Students admitted with Advanced Standing will enter the advanced year of the MSW Program, and must complete the 30 credit advanced year curriculum to earn the MSW degree. The MSW degree requirements can be met for Advanced Standing students in one-year taking a full-time course load or two years taking a prescribed part-time course load. The required advanced field practicum is 24 hours over 3 days per week and must start in the fall semester and completed in two consecutive semesters.

To qualify for consideration for the Advanced Standing MSW Program, applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Earned the BSW degree from a CSWE accredited social work program within the past five years
- Graduated with a 3.0 overall grade point average or better, with no “C” grades in social work practice courses

Applicants who meet the criteria and are interested in pursuing advanced standing will be asked to provide the following documents:

- A recommendation from the Chair or Program Director of the Program from which the student received the BSW degree; and
- A recommendation from a representative of the Field Education department from the BSW Program from which the student matriculated.

Recommendations should be submitted using the designated form. A letter may be submitted with the recommendation form if desired.

Program of Study

The MSW Program incorporates a Foundation Curriculum that focuses on the development of generalist social work practice knowledge and skills, and an Advanced Curriculum which enables students to develop specialized knowledge and skills in a selected social work field of practice (i.e., concentration). The Advanced Curriculum builds on the Foundation Curriculum, broadening students’ knowledge and skills in depth and breadth. It is comprised of a set of advanced core courses as well as specialized courses in the student’s chosen concentration. Students also take elective courses that enrich their knowledge of social work issues and practice in urban social work. Due to the structure of the curriculum, students must take courses in the proper sequence, observing prerequisites and co-requisites. Further, students must successfully complete foundation curriculum courses prior to embarking on the advanced curriculum.

The MSW Student Handbook is available on the University’s website at www.morgan.edu/ssw. This document contains the listing of required foundation and advanced courses, required concentration courses, and prescribed full time and part time schedules.

Social work is an ever evolving profession. As new developments unfold, updates may be made to the curriculum. Please consult the MSW Student Handbook for the most current information about the program.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Doctoral Course Descriptions

SOWK 701: History of Social Welfare Policy**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course provides information on the history and evolution of professional social work and social welfare values, practices, policies, and organizations in the United States. Covering the history of American social welfare from colonial times, this course places considerable emphasis on the effects of social, cultural, political, and economic factors on the development of social welfare policies and the social work profession.

SOWK 702: Social Work and Human Services Statistics I**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course equips students with basic statistical techniques. Students will learn to apply descriptive and some intermediate statistical procedures to social problems and human service programs. In addition, beginning knowledge and use of computer statistical software packages will be emphasized.

SOWK 703: Knowledge and Theory Development for Urban Social Work**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course will present an in-depth exploration of a broad array of psychological, socio-cultural, political, and economic theories that undergird urban social work knowledge, values, and skills. Theories relevant to community development and empowerment will also be included. Tools and skills of analysis will be emphasized, as these form the basis of urban social work practice and research.

SOWK 704: Research Methods for Urban Social Institutions**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course examines the assumptions and the underlying logic and methods of social science research. Special attention is given to an examination of the sundry methods of social science data collection, to the criteria that determine the selection of a specific method, and to an understanding of the strengths and limitations of the various methods. These methods are explained and their applicability examined within the context of urban social institutions.

SOWK 705: Contemporary Social Policy Analysis**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course provides students with frameworks and methods of analyzing contemporary social welfare policies and the programs through which they are implemented. The course also explores the dimensions of policy analysis including policy development, implementation, management, and control, and it examines methods and dilemmas of policy advocacy for urban populations.

SOWK 706: Social Work and Human Services Statistics II**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course acquaints students with more intermediate statistical procedures that is begun in SOWK 702, but also introduces students to the logic, significance, and appropriate application of advanced (i.e.,

multivariate) statistical procedures. In addition, intermediate knowledge and use of computer statistical software packages will be emphasized.

SOWK 801: Administration, Management, and Organizational Policy**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course introduces students to theoretical and applied approaches to human service administration, leadership, management and policy development. Emphasis is placed on human resource development and management and program development and implementation.

SOWK 802: Qualitative Methods in Social Work Research**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

The course is designed to prepare students to conduct ethnographic participatory action research. Students will master methods such as interpreting qualitative data and building theory; qualitative methods of analysis, such as successive approximation and analytic comparison; and the use of computer software for qualitative data.

SOWK 803: Urban Family Theories**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course familiarizes students with various theories, perspectives, and methodologies used to study the structure and functioning of urban minority families focusing on conceptual models commonly used in family analysis: family structure and functionalism, interactionism, exchange theory, conflict theory, and the family developmental perspective.

SOWK 804: Social Work with Urban Organizations And Communities**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course examines urban organizations and communities with a focus on community-based agencies as levels of macro intervention for problem solving with urban and historically oppressed populations. The course will focus on administrative roles, organizational management, resource acquisition, planning, and community relations in a context of financial devolution.

SOWK 805: Advanced Statistics For The Human Services**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course focuses exclusively on multivariate analyses that are commonly used in social work and human services research. These procedures are ordinary least squares multiple regression, logistic regression, and structural equation models. In addition, advanced knowledge and use of computer statistical software packages will be emphasized.

SOWK 806: Program Evaluation**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course provides students with an in-depth look at, and assessment of, evaluation methods in social work practice, administration, and policy. It prepares students to systematically evaluate the effectiveness and efficacy of human service interventions with urban populations.

SOWK 807: Issues In Social Work Pedagogy And Education**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course examines the role and structure of social work education at the BSW, MSW and PhD levels. The course will emphasize pedagogical issues in social work education, curriculum development, educational design, and instructional delivery. Emphasis will be placed on preparing students for

effective and competent teaching and the transmission of knowledge and skills in academic and agency settings.

SOWK 808: Teaching or Research Practicum In Social Work Education

Three Hours: 3 Credits

Doctoral students will teach a social work course at the BSW or MSW level under the supervision of a faculty mentor, or conduct independent research under the supervision of a faculty member.

SOWK 809: Health Policy Issues and Practice

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course presents an overview and analyses of critical health policy issues that disproportionately and adversely affect urban populations. This course also examines the various macro practice methods used to resolve these issues from a social justice perspective.

SOWK 810: Scholarly Writing and Productivity

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course examines the expectations and necessity of scholarly writing and productivity in social work. Preparing students for the role of “publishing scholar,” this course provides students with the knowledge, values, and skills associated with writing scholarly articles and books.

SOWK 811: Elective

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course serves as an elective for PhD students in social work. The course provides students with the opportunity to work with a professor on a project. It offers students the opportunity to establish a mentoring relationship with a professor around an area of mutual interest.

SOWK 997: Dissertation Guidance

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This seminar is designed to help students develop and conduct their dissertation research. This seminar is conducted informally with assistance provided by the student’s dissertation chairperson/advisor and other committee members.

SOWK 998: Dissertation Seminar

Six Hours: 6 Credits

Students register for this course to complete the dissertation and to receive a letter grade when the dissertation has been approved by the dissertation committee and the Dean of the School of Graduate Studies. This course is taken only once.

Social Work Master's Program Course Descriptions

SOWK 501: Generalist Social Work Practice

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course is the first course in the methods sequence and introduces students to the profession of social work and the methods of social work practice. The course explores historical developments that shaped the profession and techniques of generalist practice. The course introduces theories that provide the basis for social work interventions and values and ethics that undergird professional social work practice. **Co-requisite:** SOWK 503.

SOWK 502: Agency and Neighborhood Development in Poor Urban Communities

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course is the second in the methods sequence and builds on the generalist practice framework. Social work practice with urban communities and organizations is the major focus. Community organizing and social planning provide the frame of reference for skills development. **Prerequisites:** SOWK 501, SOWK 503. **Co-requisite:** SOWK 504.

SOWK 503: Foundation Field Practicum I

3 Credits

Students are assigned to an approved social service agency 16 hours per week under the supervision of an experienced social work professional. Field placements provide students the opportunity to integrate social work theory within an ethical framework and apply skills within an agency setting and urban community context. The field setting will enable students to develop a greater respect for diversity and practice with populations at risk, to utilize critical thinking and problem solving, and to develop comfort in the professional role. **Co-requisite:** SOWK 501.

SOWK 504: Foundation Field Practicum II

Three Credits

Students are assigned to an approved social service agency 16 hours per week under the supervision of an experienced social work professional. Field placements provide students the opportunity to integrate social work theory within an ethical framework and apply skills within an agency setting and urban community context. The field setting will enable students to develop a greater respect for diversity and practice with populations at risk, to utilize critical thinking and problem solving, and to develop comfort in the professional role. **Prerequisites:** SOWK 501, SOWK 503. **Co-Requisite:** SOWK 502.

SOWK 505: Life Course Development and Issues (HBSE I)

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course examines the major social science theories that inform the social work profession's understanding of human behavior from a social systems perspective. Development across the life span is conceptualized as the interplay between nature and nurture where biological and psychosocial risk influence individual resiliency and environmental competence.

SOWK 506: Urban Organizations, Neighborhoods & Communities (HBSE II)

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course emphasizes several aspects of macro practice within an ecological perspective. Students learn how to assess characteristics, dynamics, strengths, and problems of human service and community-based organizations, service delivery systems, and urban communities. An ecological systems

framework together with a developmental approach is used to provide an interactional understanding of human behavior. **Prerequisite:** SOWK 505.

SOWK 507: Social Welfare and Urban Economics**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course explores historical dynamics of class, race, and other oppressions impacting U.S. social welfare policy. It analyzes groups' struggles for empowerment directing community action toward urban injustices. Students become familiar with political strategies, organizational tools and social work values effectuating social change.

SOWK 509: Chemical Dependency and Community Violence: Urban Perspectives**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

The two parts of this course cover alcohol and other drug abuse (AODA) and inner-city violence. These problems are analyzed from an ecological perspective, i.e., examined in relationship to race, values, social welfare policies, urban institutions, community groups, and individuals. **Prerequisites:** SOWK 501, SOWK 502, SOWK 503, SOWK 504.

SOWK 510: Research and Urban Social Problems**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

The social work research curriculum is designed to help students develop into effective practitioners/researchers. The course includes content on ethical standards of scientific inquiry, research design for qualitative and quantitative research, analyses and reporting, practice evaluation, and the utilization of research. Students will critically review research reports on urban social problems in the media and professional journals.

SOWK 601: Psychopathology and Clinical Intervention**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course is designed to acquaint students with the theoretical and clinical practice of diagnosing mental disorders. Students will become acquainted the DSM V (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of mental Disorders, 5th Edition along with the text Strengthening the DSM, by Garcia and Petrovich). As the primary texts a descriptive approach to mental health diagnosis is offered with a focus on work within the urban context. Case studies representing the major mental disorders will serve as the tool for developing treatment planning and clinical intervention. **Prerequisites:** All SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses. **Co-requisite:** SOWK 603 (FALL).

SOWK 602: Social Work Practice with Urban Black Families**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This advanced practice course will expand the development and application of empowerment and strengths-based interventions for the purpose of creating alternative African-centered healing models for practice with African/Black American families. The course will combine a historical overview of African/Black American families with an emphasis on the obstacles they encounter as threats to healthy development and family functioning. Special attention is devoted to unraveling the effects of African cultural legacies, slavery, and institutional racism on urban Black family life. **Prerequisites:** ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status, SOWK 601, SOWK 603. **Co-requisite:** SOWK 604.

SOWK 603: Concentration Field Practicum III**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

The Concentration Field Practicum is intended to help students develop expanded knowledge, values, and skills in their area of concentration. Students are assigned to an approved social service agency under the supervision of an experienced professional for three full days per week per semester. The focus of the concentration practica is to enable students to integrate the advanced level of knowledge and skills learned in concentration practice methods courses into their field internship experiences. Concentration Field Practicum courses SOWK 603 and SOWK 604 are taken in consecutive semesters starting in the fall semester. **Prerequisites:** ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status. **Co-requisite:** SOWK 601.

SOWK 604: Concentration Field Practicum IV**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

The Concentration Field Practicum is intended to help students develop expanded knowledge, values, and skills in their area of concentration. Students are assigned to an approved social service agency under the supervision of an experienced professional for three full days per week per semester. The focus of the concentration practica is to enable students to integrate the advanced level of knowledge and skills learned in concentration practice methods courses into their field internship experiences. Concentration Field Practicum courses SOWK 603 and SOWK 604 are taken in consecutive semesters starting in the fall semester. **Prerequisites:** ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status, SOWK 601, SOWK 603. **Co-requisite:** SOWK 602.

SOWK 608: Organizational Policy and Leadership in Human Service Programs**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course will focus on the purpose, development, policies and functions of human service organizations within the urban context. Emphasis will be placed on organizational history, theoretical frameworks for human services management, budgeting and fiscal management, cultural competence, and leadership skills. **Prerequisite:** SOWK 507.

SOWK 610: Evaluation Research of Urban Social Problems, Services, & Interventions**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course further develops the use of research knowledge and skills learned in undergraduate programs or in the foundation research course. The primary goals of the course are to evaluate research findings relevant to urban problems and practitioners' concerns, use the scientific research methods to answer research questions relevant to practice and policy, and collect and analyze data and present research findings, with particular application to program evaluation. **Prerequisite:** SOWK 510.

SOWK 620: Urban Social Work Practice with the Aged and their Families**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course is designed to provide students with specialized knowledge necessary for advanced social work practice with urban older adults and their families, especially African Americans. Case management and clinical interventions with vulnerable and oppressed client/client families will form the basis of the course. Students will sharpen their skills in advanced clinical bio-psychosocial, mental health and other types of assessments.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 621: Social Forces Affecting Older Adults and their Families**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course will take a comprehensive look at the effects of social forces on the welfare of older urban people of color, their families and communities. These social forces include: crime, violence, underground economies, misogyny, inadequate housing, incarceration, health disparities, the long term impact of unequal educational opportunities, environmental risk factors and continuous racial oppression. Current models used in urban settings to address these social forces and culturally appropriate interventions toward systems and individual behavioral change will be emphasized.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status, SOWK 620.

SOWK 622: Coping with Losses and Grief**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

In this course, students will examine the range of losses elders experience during late adulthood such as: death of family members and friends; loss of a role in the family and/or their caregiver, loss of security in their environment, loss of a sense of dignity in their community, loss of mobility and social functioning and interaction, loss of contact with relatives due to separation and/or divorce. Social theories and best practice models to address these types of losses will be explored.

SOWK 623: Implications of Intergenerational Issues for Urban Older Adults**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This seminar will utilize an intergenerational perspective as it focuses on: publicly and privately funded intergenerational programs, grandparents raising grandchildren, and elder abuse. The course will facilitate a joint beneficial activity for students to apply program development and evaluation knowledge to urban agencies that provide services to community residents of all ages.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 630: Urban Child Welfare**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course is designed to prepare students with the knowledge, ethics, and skills for effective practice in the field of urban child welfare. The course will explore the history, evolution, and current status of child welfare policies, the service continuum provided to families and children, and the socio-cultural context of child welfare practice. Emphasis will be placed on culturally competent assessment, intervention, and evaluation strategies as their relevance to poor, urban, and African American families and communities.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 631: Child Neglect and Abuse**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course presents an examination from historical and contemporary perspectives the medical, legal, psychosocial, and cultural aspects of child maltreatment. A variety of theoretical frameworks will be explored as they guide an understanding of the societal, familial and community dynamics that engender child neglect, physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. Specific attention will be paid to cultural strengths and community assets that prevent child maltreatment and promote healthy psychosocial development of children and families.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status, SOWK 630.

SOWK 632: Juvenile Delinquency: Prevention, Development & Intervention**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of the nature and extent of juvenile delinquency and its impact within the juvenile justice system. The role of social workers in the juvenile justice system will be explicated related to practice with urban individuals, families and communities. Prevention, development, and intervention approaches will be emphasized in the course.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 640: Social Work in Urban Schools**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This seminar is the first of three courses in the School Social Work Concentration. It introduces social work roles, core principles, concepts, and techniques which underlie generalist social work practice in school settings. The course explores practice models used by school social workers and helps students understand the unique role of school social workers in the lives of children. Emphasis will be on the development of knowledge and competencies with urban populations.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 641: Schools in Communities**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This advanced course is an opportunity for critical analysis of the ecological systems model so widely utilized in the social work profession. It explores the relationship between schools and their communities with particular emphasis on the role of the community in the learning, culture, and extra-curricular activities of the school. The role of children and youth as members of the community, and their responsibility as citizens, will be a central theme for helping social workers to develop community models to improve public schools and the quality of life for urban children and youth attending them.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status, SOWK 640.

SOWK 642: Urban Social Work & Special Education**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course offers a unique examination of social work practice in school settings with special emphasis on special education. The course will explore the historical, legislative (ADA/Section 504 inclusion laws), and litigation history of special education, as well as models, theories, and philosophies that provide the basis for special education practice. The course will also provide an in-depth look at tools that social workers have available to them as school social workers in practice with the urban school population with special education needs and issues.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status, SOWK 640.

SOWK 643: Popular Youth Culture**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

The course undertakes a critical analysis of problems facing urban youth and the development of innovative solutions that lead to youth empowerment. Innovative prevention, intervention and treatment approaches to bridge gaps between youth, their families, communities and society at large are prescribed as models for engaging urban youth and embracing popular youth culture.

SOWK 650: Social Work Practice in Health Promotion and Disease Prevention**Three Hours: 3 Credits**

This course teaches practice models and multi-level methods of intervention for general health promotion and prevention in public health social work practice with urban populations. Examples of topics

covered in the course include: promotion screening and early intervention, child health and safety; promotion of healthy aging; violence prevention (domestic, youth), and environmental health risks.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 651: Epidemiology

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course presents a comprehensive review of the distribution and determinants of disease in human populations and the application of epidemiological and bio-statistical procedures to understanding the occurrence and control of conditions such as infections and chronic diseases, mental disorders, community and environmental health hazards, and geriatric problems. The course introduces epidemiologic definitions, a review of vital statistics and other sources of public health data, methods for calculating distributions, behavior of diseases, sampling methods, study designs, and measurement outcomes.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 652: Maternal and Child Health Macro Practice, Programs and Policies

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course provides an overview of maternal and child health including history, legislation, key public health issues, health and social welfare policies and programmatic responses to such issues as maternal and infant mortality, child and adolescent health, immigrant health, male reproductive health, and special needs of children and their families. Program and policy development and familiarity with various professional roles in addressing public health problems impacting children and families will be emphasized.

Prerequisites: ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status.

SOWK 653: Public Health Policy, Urban Health Services and Planning

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course examines the formulation and implementation of health policy in the U.S. health care system. Emphasis is on the application of analytical contributions from health economics, health services research, and other policy-related disciplines to current issues in urban health care delivery, organization, and financing. **Prerequisites:** ALL SOWK Foundation Curriculum Courses or Advanced Standing Status, SOWK 650.

SOWK 670: Spirituality, Religions, and the Helping Tradition

Three Hours: 3 Credits

This course is offered to aid the development of culturally competent practitioners who will be critically reflective of and respectfully responsive to the diversity of religious and spiritual values, ethics, and principles that contribute to the world views of those with whom they work. It explores the role of spiritual and religious perspectives in supporting or impeding individuals, families, and group strengths as well as its interaction within structural systems.